

REMARKS

Claims 1-8 are pending in the present application. Applicants note with appreciation the allowance of claims 2-8. The Examiner finally rejected claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Haselton (US 2800827). Applicants submit herewith a Request for Continued Examination with this Amendment as the accompanying submission. With entry of this Amendment, Applicants amend claim 1. Reexamination and reconsideration are respectfully requested.

The present invention is directed to an electric keyboard assembly with keys and pivoting mass members associated with the keys. As illustrated in Fig. 1, a given mass member 40 has a first arm 40A and a second arm 40B. Each arm extends substantially horizontally and carries a distinct weight member. This arrangement has numerous advantages including reducing the height of a keyboard.

In contrast, Haselton does not disclose a mass member having a first and second arm extending substantially horizontally. Haselton discloses that the striking member 32 is provided with an “elongated vertical support 34” while lifter head 30 is “extended upwardly and reversely directed as indicated by the elongated reversely-directed member 36 which is in the form of a hook, as clearly shown in Fig. 1.” (Col. 2, lines 20-30.) Accordingly, Haselton does not disclose “a plurality of seesaw-type mass members that each have first and second arms extending substantially horizontally” as recited in amended claim 1. Thus, claim 1 is not anticipated by or obvious in view of Haselton.

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue.

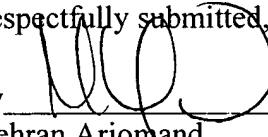
If, for any reason, the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, Applicants request that the Examiner contact the undersigned attorney at the Los Angeles

telephone number (213) 892-5630 to discuss any steps necessary to place the application in condition for allowance.

In the unlikely event that the transmittal letter is separated from this document and the Patent Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, Applicants petition for any required relief including extensions of time and authorize the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to **Deposit Account No. 03-1952** referencing docket no. 393032023000.

Dated: March 12, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

By 
Mehran Arjomand

Registration No.: 48,231
MORRISON & FOERSTER LLP
555 West Fifth Street, Suite 3500
Los Angeles, California 90013
(213) 892-5630